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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows:

1-47, Canceled.

48. (Currently Amended) A method for eliciting in a host an antibody that specifically binds to a second inner core of lipopolysaccharide of recognizes Neisseria meningitidis immunotypes I.1, I.3, I.7, I.8, I.9, I.10, I.11, and I.12, comprising administering to said host an immunogenic composition, said immunogenic composition comprising [[an]] a first inner core of a Neisseria lipopolysaccharide (I.PS) and is substantially free from outer core lipopolysaccharide, wherein a phosphoethanolamine moiety is linked to position 3 of a HepII moiety of said first inner core of said Neisseria IPS, wherein said antibody binds to [[an]] a inner core I.PS of Neisseria meningitidis immunotypes I.1, I.3, I.7, I.8, I.9, I.10, I.11, and I.12; and is capable of conferring passive protection against a gale mutant of an I.3 immunotype Neisseria meningitidis strain.

49. (Cancelled)

50-54. (Cancelled)

55. (Currently Amended) A method of immunizing a host against Neisseria meningitidis immunotypes L1, L3, L7, L8, L9, L10, L11, and L12, comprising administering to said host an immunogenic composition, said immunogenic composition comprising [[an]] a first inner core of a Neisseria lipopolysaccharide (LPS) and is substantially free from outer core lipopolysaccharide, wherein a phosphoethanolamine moiety is linked to position 3 of a HepII moiety of said

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first inner core of said Neisseria LPS, whereby an antibody is clicited that binds to [[an]] a second inner core LPS of Neisseria meningitidis immunotypes L1, L3, L7, L8, L9, L10, L11, and L12; and is capable of conferring passive protection against a galE mutant of an L3 immunotype Neisseria meningitidis strain.

56. (Cancelled)

57-61. (Canceled)

- 62. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 48, wherein said second inner core LPS of said Neisseria meningitidis immunotypes L1, L3, L7, L8, L9, L10, L11, and L12-is accessible to said antibody in a presence of an outer core LPS of said Neisseria meningitidis immunotypes L1, L3, L7, L8, L9, L10, L11, and L12.
- 63. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 48, wherein said second inner core LPS of said Neisseria meningitidis immunotypes L1, L3, L7, L8, L9, L10, L11, and L12 is accessible to said antibody in a presence of a bacterial capsule of a Neisseria meningitidis strain.
- 64. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 48, wherein said immunogenic composition comprises said first inner core of a Neisseria LPS is conjugated to a protein or peptide.
- 65. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 48, wherein said first inner core of a Neisseria LPS is an inner core of a Neisseria meningitidis LPS.

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- 66. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein said second inner core LPS of said Neisseria meningitidis immunotypes L1, L3, L7, L8, L9, L10, L11, and 1.12 is accessible to said antibody in a presence of an outer core LPS of said Neisseria meningitidis immunotypes L1, L3, L7, L8, L9, L10, L11, and L12.
- 67. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein said second inner core LPS of said Neisseria meningitidis immunotypes L1, L3, L7, L8, L9, L10, L11, and 1.12 is accessible to said antibody in a presence of a bacterial capsule of a Neisseria meningitidis strain.
- 68. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein said immunogenic composition comprises said first inner core of a Neisweria LPS is conjugated to a protein or peptide.
- 69. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein said first inner core of a Neisseria LPS is an inner core of a Neisseria meningitidis LPS.
- 70. (Currently Amended) A method for eliciting in a host an antibody that recognizes a majority of naturally occurring strains of Neisseria meningitidis, comprising administering to said host an immunogenic composition, said immunogenic composition comprising [[an]] a first inner core of a Neisseria lipopolysaccharide (LPS) and is substantially free from outer core lipopolysaccharide, wherein a phosphoethanolamine moiety is linked to position 3 of a Hepll moiety of said first inner core of said Neisseria LPS, wherein said antibody binds to [[an]] a second inner core LPS of a majority of naturally occurring strains of Neisseria

mutant of an L3 immunotype Neisseria meningitidis strain.

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meningitidis; and is capable of conferring passive protection against a galE

71. (Cancelled)

72. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 70, wherein said second inner core LPS of said majority of naturally occurring strains of Neisseria meningitidis is accessible to said antibody in a presence of an outer core LPS of said Neisseria meningitidis immunotypes L1, L3, L7, L8, L9, L10, L11, and L12.

73. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 70, wherein said second inner core LPS of said majority of naturally occurring strains of Neisseria meningitidis is accessible to said antibody in a presence of a bacterial capsule of a Neisseria meningitidis strain.

- 74. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 70, wherein said immunogenic composition comprises said <u>first</u> inner core of a *Neisseria* LPS is conjugated to a protein or peptide.
- 75. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 70, wherein said <u>first</u> inner core of a Neisseria LPS is an inner core of a Neisseria meningitidis LPS.
- 76. (Currently Amended) A method of immunizing a host against a majority of naturally occurring strains of *Neisseria meningitidis*, comprising administering to said host an immunogenic composition, said immunogenic composition comprising [[an]] a first inner core of a *Neisseria* lipopolysaccharide (LPS) and is substantially free from outer core lipopolysaccharide, wherein a

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phosphocthanolamine moiety is linked to position 3 of a Hepl1 moiety of said <u>first</u> inner core of said *Neisseria* LPS, whereby an antibody is elicited that binds to [[an]] a second inner core LPS of a majority of naturally occurring strains of *Neisseria meningitidis*; and is capable of conferring passive protection against a galE mutant of an L3 immunotype *Neisseria meningitidis* strain.

77. (Cancelled)

78. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 76, wherein said second inner core LPS of said majority of naturally occurring strains of Neisseria meningitidis is accessible to said antibody in a presence of an outer core LPS of said Neisseria meningitidis immunotypes L1, L3, L7, L8, L9, L10, L11, and L12.

79. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 76, wherein said second inner core LPS of said majority of naturally occurring strains of Neisseria meningitidis is accessible to said antibody in a presence of a bacterial capsule of a Neisseria meningitidis strain.

- 80. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 76, wherein said immunogenic composition comprises said first inner core of a *Neisseria* LPS is conjugated to a protein or peptide.
- 81. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 76, wherein said <u>first</u> inner core of a *Neisseria* LPS is an inner core of a *Neisseria meningitidis* LPS.